# Travel & Tourism – Economic Impacts, 2001 Utah Division of Travel Development



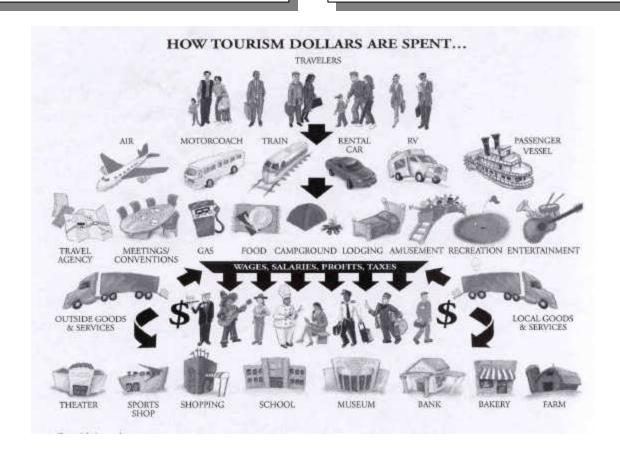
#### **Defining Travel & Tourism**

The World Tourism Organization defines the travel and tourism industry as the activities of persons traveling and staying in places outside their usual environment.

Measuring the travel and tourism industry is a complex task, more so since tourism is not an industry in the traditional sense of mining or manufacturing. Main business sectors within the industry usually include transportation, eating and drinking establishments, hotels and other lodging places, auto rentals and amusement and recreation services. While most tourism businesses reside in the services sector of the economy, the impacts of tourism-related businesses often cross boundaries into other sectors, including retail, construction, government, public utilities, real estate, agriculture and manufacturing. Travel and tourism consistently ranks among Utah's five most important economic activities.

#### Quick Facts on Utah Tourism, 2001

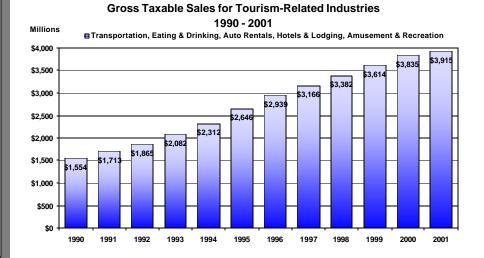
- 17.3 million non-resident visitors
- 630,000 International visitors
- \$4.15 billion in travel-related spending
- \$332 million in state and local taxes (\$475 per Utah household)
- 128,500 jobs in travel-related industries (one out of every nine jobs in Utah!)
- 4.75 million recreation visitors to Utah's National Parks.
- 5.5 million recreation visitors to Utah's National Monuments and Recreation Areas
- 6.1 million recreation visitors to Utah State Parks
- 21.8 million vehicles crossed state lines along Utah's Interstate Highways
- 18.9 million passengers to Salt Lake City International Airport
- 3.0 million skier days to Utah ski resorts during the 2001/02 season
- 660,000 visitors traveled to Utah Welcome Centers
- 59.9% statewide lodging occupancy rate



## Travel & Tourism Tax Revenues, CY 2001

- \$332 million in combined state and local taxes
  - √ \$246 million state revenue
  - √ \$86 million local revenue
- \$578 million in gross taxable room rents
- \$18.6 million in transient room tax revenues
- \$21.9 million in restaurant tax revenues
- \$12.9 million in auto rental tax revenues

SOURCE: Utah State Tax Commission



### Overview of Tourism-Related Taxes in Utah, FY 2001

Tax	Taxing Authority	Tax Revenues (Tax Rate)	Tax Description	Use of Revenues
Transient Room Tax	Counties (29)	\$16.6 Million (3.0%)	Tax on the rent of a suite, room or rooms in motels, hotels, inns or similar public accommodations	- Tourism marketing and promotion - Up to 33% to finance tourism development (including construction and/or maintenance) –OR– - Up to 33% to mitigate tourism impacts (4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> class counties only)
Special Transient Room Tax (part of the TRCC* Tax)	1 <sup>st</sup> Class Counties (1)	\$1.2 Million (0.5%)	Tax on the rent of a suite, room or rooms in motels, hotels, inns or similar public accommodations	Tourism marketing and promotion     Finance tourism development (including construction and/or maintenance)
Municipal Transient Room Tax	Municipalities (16)	\$0.7 Million (Up to 1.5%)	Tax on the rent of a suite, room or rooms in motels, hotels, inns or similar public accommodations	General fund use for enacting municipality     Debt service on bonds or other indebtedness
Restaurant Tax (part of the TRCC* Tax)	Counties (24)	\$21.0 Million (1.0%)	Tax on sales of prepared foods and beverages sold by restaurants for immediate consumption	Tourism marketing and promotion     Finance tourism development (including construction and/or maintenance)
Leased Vehicle Tax (part of the TRCC* Tax)	Counties (10)	\$9.6 Million (Up to 7.0%)	Tax on short-term leases and rental of motor vehicles (some exemptions)	Tourism marketing and promotion     Finance tourism development (including construction and/or maintenance)
Motor Vehicle Rental Tax	State	\$3.7 Million (2.5%)	Tax on short-term leases and rental of motor vehicles (some exemptions)	- Transportation Corridor Preservation Revolving Loan Fund
Resort Communities Tax**	Municipalities (12)	\$7.2 Million (Up to 1.5%)	Tax on purchase price of transactions under the state's sales and use tax laws	- General fund use for enacting municipality
Botanical, Cultural and Zoological Tax	Counties (2)	\$16.1 Million (Up to 0.1%)	Tax on purchase price of transactions under the state's sales and use tax laws	<ul> <li>- 30% County recreational facilities</li> <li>- 12.5% County zoological organizations</li> <li>- 52.5% County botanical and cultural organizations</li> </ul>

<sup>\*</sup>TRCC – Tourism, Recreation, Cultural and Convention Facilities Tax

NOTE: All taxes are in addition to the state and local sales tax, which varies by county and municipality between 5.75% and 7.0% SOURCE: Utah State Tax Commission Annual Report, FY 2000-2001

<sup>\*\*</sup> Resort Communities Tax may be levied by municipalities whose transient room capacity is greater than or equal to 66% of the permanent census population